

Preliminary Assignment: IS 367 – Postcolonial Theory

David Chioni Moore, Wednesday September 7, 2011

- Topic:** Frantz Fanon’s essay “The Fact of Blackness”
- Due:** Thursday, September 8, by 1:00 pm under my office door, Carnegie 410. This is an absolute deadline. Physical and not e-copy required.
- Evaluation:** It does not have to be a Nobel-prize-level product, and will not be graded. Nonetheless, appropriate completion is required to pass course, or remain on waitlist.
- Format:** Two pages, *single*-spaced, stapled (or on both sides of one sheet), one blank line between paragraphs, 1” margins all around, attractive and effective title centered on top line, name/date/class# one line below.

Frantz Fanon’s 1953 essay “The Fact of Blackness” (in the original French, “L’Expérience vécue du noir” – or “the lived experience of the black [man]”) provides a rich starting-point for our work this semester. To get us rapidly into the flow of the course, please comment on Fanon’s essay in the following manner:

- summarize its main points
- describe the style of the piece and its style of argument
- discuss who or what Fanon seems to be arguing *against*, if anybody or anything, and/or who you judge his intended audience to be
- briefly apply Fanon’s argument to show something familiar in a new light
- assess/comment upon Fanon’s piece — at whatever level you see fit.

Check your paper for spelling and grammar, and make sure it reads smoothly with appropriate transitions.